

City of Duluth
Commission on Disabilities
Monthly Meeting
April 2, 2014

Melissa Booth	P	Amber Madoll	P
Michelle McDonald	A	Francis McGee	A
Roberta Cich	A	Beverly Strongitharm	A
Erica Erickson	P	Karin Swor	A
Amanda Crosby	P	Randall Vogt	A
Derek Uttley	A	Amy Hill	P
Gerald Salvesson	A	Bob Grytdahl-Staff	P

1. Approval of March Minutes & Current Agenda

There were not enough members present to form a quorum. Minutes will be approved at the next meeting.

2. Signage Requests-

There were no new signage requests.

3. Action and Advocacy Reports

- a. Parks and Recreation representative to replace Erica Erickson- the Parks and Recreation Commission meets the second Wednesday of the month, from 5pm until about 7:30pm. The regular meeting place is at the Central Hillside Community Center. There are about 12-15 members on the Parks and Recreation Commission. The commission is funded to create master plans and for other projects. It's important to have a member of the Disabilities Commission involved with the Parks and Rec. commission –“Nothing about us without us.”

Erica suggested that the Disabilities Commission draft a basic plan of questions to present to Parks and Recreation planners which can be used as a permanent document to consult when planning new building projects.

Amber Madoll is willing to fill in for Erica temporarily on the Parks and Recreation Commission. Erica will look into the process for being appointed onto the Parks Commission.

- b. Homeless Bill of Rights- This is still in the works. The Human Rights Commission is doing some assessments.
- c. Summit on the Ten Year Plan to End Homelessness- May 28th from 4pm-8pm at the Coppertop Church. The community is putting a lot of energy into this.
- d. Lake Walk Shoreline-There is no universal access between 20th and near 25th Avenues East. The path doesn't continue in front of the condos.

4. Public Comment-

Dwight is asking for a letter of support from the Disabilities Commission for Wheels on Trails. Bob will write the letter.

5. Other Business

- A. There will be a DTA presentation on the new multi-modal at the next commission meeting, which is Wednesday, May 7th. Spread the word, the public is encouraged to attend and learn more about the new multi-modal station.

Amber would like to have an update on how ridership has been with the new stride buses.

- B. Bob received a fair housing complaint from a resident of an apartment building which advertises itself as being accessible. The person uses a wheel chair. The building managers won't shovel the walkways unless there is two inches of snow. This does not make for accessible pathways for persons who use wheel chairs.

A city ordinance indicates that parking lots have to be shoveled within 72 hours of snowfall. Accessibility includes having an accessible route, but this isn't possible if there is not enough snow removal. Would the commission like to communicate to the mayor about people in wheelchairs who can't get anywhere because they are not shoveled or plowed out after a snowfall?

If the city licenses apartment buildings, what is the city's responsibility for making sure there is enforcement of city codes, such as plowing within 72 hours? When does the municipal government have to respond to the needs of the community? The commission should be able to communicate this concern to city government.

Amber suggested creating a task force to examine snow removal from wheel chair accessible routes on rental properties.

- C. The commission will look into seeing if the city architect can meet with the commission at the June meeting.

6. Announcements

There were no announcements.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Booth
Secretary